Lead Entity Advisory Group Report

to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, October 2010
Prepared and Submitted by LEAG Chair, Barbara Rosenkotter

The Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG) has been meeting primarily via conference calls in May and October but also had an in-person meeting in Lacey on July 9th where they elected their Executive Committee members along with a new Chair; Barbara Rosenkotter and Vice-Chair, Angle Begosh. LEAG Executive Committee Members:

- Cheryl Baumann (North Olympic)
- Angie Begosh (Yakima), LEAG Vice-Chair
- Richard Brocksmith (Hood Canal), LEAG Past Chair
- Dave McClure (Klickitat)
- Barbara Rosenkotter (San Juan), LEAG Chair
- Char Schumacher (Okanogan)
- John Sims (Quinault)

Lead Entities throughout the state have been busy with the 2010 SRFB grant round leading to 155 applications submitted on August 25th. Lead Entities continue to address any remaining concerns identified by the Review Panel.

Lead Entities have been working through various work groups along with RCO/GSRO staff to continue to advance the goals set forth at the April LEAG retreat:

- Teiling the Salmon Recovery Story
- HWS Enhancements
 - Implementation Scheduling
 - Tracking Programmatic Actions
 - PRISM to HWS Interface

RCO is performing a functional requirements analysis and developing a matrix to summarize the functional requirements for the various tracking systems which will help identify reporting and tracking needs. RCO will work with Lead Entities and Regions to ensure that the data systems meet those tracking and reporting needs.

A workgroup is also working with RCO staff to help develop the next Project Conference. The Project Conference is scheduled for April 2011.

LEAG members are ready to provide input to the upcoming Manual 18 changes and reviewed and provided input regarding the recently proposed Manual 3 changes. There was concern expressed regarding the proposed policy requiring property acquired for development or conservation to have the planned activity completed within three years of purchase as it frequently requires more than 3 years to get restoration projects implemented. The concern was discussed at the October LEAG conference call with RCO staff and they plan to revise the language to respond to comments. The revised language should be available by the October SRFB meeting.

At their October conference call meeting LEAG members also reviewed the 2010 Community Salmon Fund (CSF) grant round with representatives from NFWF and Evergreen Consulting and provided input for the 2011 grant round. Lead Entities continue to express their support for this small grant program which engages local communities in salmon recovery and leads to additional on-the-ground projects throughout the state.